

## Paraprofessionals and No Child Left Behind Requirements

*No Child Left Behind* sets clear guidelines for academic qualifications for individuals assisting in instruction in Title I-funded programs. The requirements are the following:

**Paraprofessionals**—*aides who provide instructional support services in a school*—can be a valuable resource in any school setting. The law allows those teachers' aides to support instruction if they have met certain academic requirements:

All Title I paraprofessionals are expected to meet one of the following HQ requirements:

- ☐ Must have at least an associate's degree; or
- ☐ Completed at least two years of college; or
- ☐ Passed the ParaPro test ([www.ets.org](http://www.ets.org) )

Please note that aides in Title I schools do not need to meet these requirements if their role does not involve instructional support. Thus, paraprofessionals who serve only as hall monitors, interpreters, or parental involvement aides do not have to meet the same academic requirements. Similarly, if an aide working with special education students does not provide any instructional support (such as one who solely provides personal care services), that person is not considered a paraprofessional under Title I, and the academic requirements do not apply.

More information on the NCLB requirements for paraprofessionals is available at:  
<http://www.doe.in.gov/dps/parapro/welcome.html> .

***NCLB required that paraprofessionals demonstrate competency no later than four years after the law's enactment, or January 8, 2006.***

Note: Indiana paraprofessionals who do not work in Title I schools must have at least a high school diploma to work as a paraprofessional. Each school district may set their own requirements for paraprofessionals.